





THE  
SCHOOL  
OF  
VERTUE.  
AND

Book of Good Nurture;  
teaching Children and Youth  
their Duties.

*Newly perused, corrected and amended.*

Hereunto is added

A brief Declaration of the  
*Duties of Each Degree*

ALSO

Certain Prayers and Graces:

Compiled by R. C.

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*If thou wilt be counted virtuous and holy,  
Despise not good counsel, but rebuke folly.*

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against the Old-Baily. 1687.

# The Preachers Counsell to Parents and Masters.

**R**egard the soft and tender Youth,  
**O** Parents of your Children dear;  
**B**e unto them in faith and truth  
**E**xamples manifest and clear.  
**R**emember, if the Children halt,  
**T**he Tutors chiefly are in fault.

**C**ontrol them wisely with the tongue,  
**R**eform them justly with the Rod;  
**O**ut of their hearts while they are young,  
**W**eed all abuse offending God:  
**L**et Vice in them have small abode.  
**E**xhort, reprove, and reprehend  
**Y**our Children, that they may amend.

The Authors name in Verdict.

**S**ay well some will  
by this my Labour,  
**E**very one yet  
will not say the same.  
**A**mong the good  
I shall find favour.

**G**od forgive them  
that do me blame,  
**E**ach man I wish  
whom I offend,  
**R**ightly to read me,  
and their faults amend.



# The School of Vertue.



First in the morning,  
when thou dost wake,  
To God for his grace,  
thy petition make ;  
This Prayer following  
use daily to say.  
Thy heart lifting up,  
thus dost thou pray,

## Morning Prayer,

O God from whom  
all good works proceed,  
To thee we repair  
in time of our need,  
That with thy grace  
thou wouldst us endue,  
Vertue to follow,  
and Vice to eschew.  
Hear this our request,  
and grant our desire,  
O Lord most humbly  
we thee require.

## The School of Vertue.

This day us defend  
that walking aright,  
We may do the thing  
allowed in thy sight.  
That as we in years  
and body do grow,  
So in good Vertues  
we may likewise show.  
To thy glory, O God,  
and joy of our Parents,  
Learning to live  
after thy Commandments :  
Flying from sin  
and all kind of crime,  
Applying our Books,  
not losing our time.  
That we may go forward  
here in well doing  
In this Vail of misery  
unto our liues ending,  
That after this life  
here transitory,  
We may attain  
unto greater Glory.  
† The Lords Prayer then  
see that thou recite,  
And keep this good order,  
each morning and night.

How

## The School of Vertue.

How to order thy self when thou risest, and in  
apparelling thy body, Chap. 1.

**F**ly eper sloath  
and overmuch sleep,  
In health thy body  
thereby thou shalt keep.  
Much sleep ingendreth  
diseases and pain,  
It dulleth the Wit,  
and hurteth the brain.  
Early in the morning  
thy bedding forsake,  
Thy Garments put on,  
thy self ready make.  
To cast up thy Bed  
let it be thy part,  
Else may they report  
that beastly thou art:  
For so to depart,  
and let the same lie,  
Is neither handsome,  
nor yet mannerly.  
Down from the Chamber  
when as thou shalt go,  
Thy Parents salute thou,  
and the Household also.

## The School of Vertue.

Thy hands see thou wash,  
thy head likewise keam,  
And in thine apparel  
see toyn be no seam;  
With thy Cap fairly brisht,  
thy head cover than,  
Putting it off  
in speaking to any man.  
Cato doth counsel thee,  
thy elders to reverence,  
Declaring thereby  
thy duty and obedience.  
Thy Shirt collar fast  
unto thy neck knit,  
Comely thy Cloathing  
about thee make fit:  
Without thy Girdle  
abroad do not go,  
Thy Nose clean rub,  
and thy shoes wipe also.  
A Napkin see that  
thou have in readiness,  
Thy nose to cleanse  
from all filthiness.  
Thy Nails if need be  
see that thou pare,  
Thy Ears keep thou clean,  
thy Teeth wash thou faine.

## The School of Vertue.

If ought about thee  
chance to be torn,  
Inform thy Friends  
how it is worn ;  
That new for thee  
they may provide,  
Or mend the old,  
in time being spied  
This done, thy Satchel  
and thy Books take,  
And to the School  
haste do thou make.  
But ere thou go,  
with thy self forgetthink,  
That thou take with thee  
Pen, Paper, and Ink :  
For these are things  
for study necessary ;  
Forget not then  
them with thee them to carry.  
The Souldier preparing  
himself to the Field,  
Leaves not behind him  
his Sword or his Shield :  
No more should a Scholar  
forget foolishly  
What at the School  
he must occupy.

These

## The School of Vertue.

¶ These things thus had,  
straight take thy way  
¶ Unto the School  
¶ without any stay.

How to order thy self in going by the Streets,  
and in the School.

### Chap. 2.

**I**f going by the way, and passing the street,  
thy Cap put off, and salute them thou meet;  
In giving the way to such as pass by,  
it is a point of civility.

And if thy way fortune so for to fall,  
let it not grieve thee thy fellows to call.

When to the School thou shalt resort,  
this Rule mark well I thee exhort: (rence,

Thy Master there being, salute with all reverence,  
declaring thereby thy duty and obedience:

Thy fellows salute, in token of love,  
least of ungentleness they do thee reprove.

Sit down in thy place, thy Satchel untie,  
thy Books take out, thy lesson apply:

All things seem hard, when first we begin,  
yet labor and diligence at last do them win.

We ought not to reckon and count the thing hard  
that bringeth pleasure and joy afterward.

Learn in thy Youth, for it is most true,  
it will be too late when age doth ensue.

¶ Dæd



## The School of Vertue.

Deeds that deserved fame and great praise,  
buried we see had been in old days,  
If Learning had not brought them unto light,  
and set them abroad in all peoples sight.  
Apply thy mind to Learning and Science,  
for Learning indeed will be thy defence.  
Nothing to Science compare we may well,  
the sweetness whereof doth all things excel.  
And Cato the wise, this worthy saying hath,  
that man wanting learning is an image of death.  
The root of learning most bitter we deem,  
but yet the fruits most pleasant do seem.  
Then labour for learning while here thou shalt live  
the ignorant to teach, and good example give:  
So shalt thou be thought a member most worthy  
the Common-wealth to serve in time of necessity.  
Experience doth teach, and shew to thee plain,  
that many by vertue to honour attain,  
Which were of birth but simple and base,  
such is the goodness of Gods special grace;  
For he that to honour by vertue doth rise,  
is double happy, and counted most wise.  
If thou doubt any thing, desire to be told,  
no shame to learn be thou never so old.  
Ignorance doth cause great errors in us,  
for want of knowledge doubts to discus.  
Then learn to discern the good from the ill,  
and such as thee warn, bear them good will.

When

## The School of Vertue.

When from the School ye shall take the way,  
orderly go ye, two and two in array,  
Your selves matching as meet as you may,  
that men in beholding may well of you say,  
In commending those your mannerly ways,  
which needs must sound to your great praise  
Not running on heaps as do swarms of Bees,  
as at this day now every man sees :  
Not using but refusing such idle toys,  
as are commonly used in these days by Boys.  
As hoping and hallowing as in hunting the Fox,  
that men in hearing deride them with mocks.  
This foolish forsake, this folly eschew,  
and your own praise mark this doth ensue ;  
In going by the way neither talk nor jangle,  
gape not nor gaze at every new fangle ;  
But soberly go with countenance grave,  
humbly your selves to all men behave.  
Be free of a Cap and frank of a knee,  
and beloved of all men be sure thou shalt be.  
Be lowly and gentle, and frank of mood,  
that men cannot chuse but speak of thee good.  
In passing the Street do no body harm,  
use but few words & thy tongue do thou charm,  
Then may men see that grace in thee groweth,  
from whence every grace abundantly floweth.  
When thou art come where thy Parents do dwell,  
thy leave there taking, bid thy fellows farewell.  
The

## The School of Vertue.

The House then entring in thy Parents presence,  
humbly salute them with all due reverence.

How to behave thy self in sitting at the Table.

Chap. 4.

**W**hen down to the Table  
thy Parents shall sit,  
In place be ready  
for the purpose most fit.

With sober countenance look them in the Face,  
thy hands holding up, thus begin thou Grace.

Grace before Meat.

**G**ive thanks to God (with one accord)  
for that shall be set on the board ;  
And be not so careful what to eat,  
to each thing living the Lord sends meat,  
For Food he will not see you perish,  
but will you feed, foster and cherish.  
Take well worth what he hath sent,  
and at this time therewith be content.  
Praising God, Amen.

As treatably speaking as thou art able,  
for their understanding that sit at the Table,  
Grace being said, low courtesie make thou,  
and mannerly say, much good may it do you.

Of

## The School of Vertue.

Of stature then if able thou be,  
to serue at the Table it shall become thee;  
In bringing to it such meats as shall need,  
for thy Father and Mother thereon to feed:  
Dishes with measure thou oughtest to fill,  
else maist thou chance thy service to spill  
Upon thine Apparel, or else on the Cloth,  
which for to do would anger them both.  
Spare Trenchers and Napkins haue in readinesse  
to serue at the Table, if there come any Guesse  
Haue a quick eye that nothing do want,  
of necessary things see there be no scant.  
As of bread and drink, provide thereof plenty,  
the vnder with bones see oft thou dost empty.  
At hand be thou ready if any do call,  
to fetch or take up if ought chance to fall.  
When they haue done, then ready do thou make  
the Table up fair in order to take;  
First the Salt see then that thou do cover,  
hauing by thee either one or other,  
Who from thy hands all things may convey,  
as from the Table thou shalt take away:  
A vnder upon the Table then haue,  
the trenchers and napkins put therein to saue  
The crumbs with a napkin be careful to sweep,  
at the Tables end in a vnder them keep;  
Then before each man a cleane Trencher lay,  
the best seruing first, the rest in array.

Then

## The School of Vertue.

Then Cheese with Fruit on the Table set,  
Biskets or Carrawaies as ye may get.  
Wine see thou fill then, or else Ale or Beer :  
but Wine is the meekest to make up the Chér.  
Then see thou attend the Table upon,  
it to void when thy Parents have done.  
Each side of the Cloth see thou turn in,  
folding it up, at the higher end begin.  
A clean Towel then on the Table spread :  
a Towel wanting, a Cloth take in stead.  
The Bason and Cwre to the Table bring,  
in place convenient their pleasure abiding.  
When thou shalt see them ready to wash,  
the Cwre take up and be not too rash,  
In pouring out water more than will suffice :  
then take up the Cloth, that they may arise.  
All things thus done, forget not thy duty,  
before the Table to make low courtisie.

How to order thy self sitting at the Table.  
Chap. 4.

**O** Children give ear your duties to learn,  
how at the Table your selves to govern.  
Presume not too high, I say, in no case,  
in sitting down to your Betters give place :  
Suffer each man, first served to be :  
for it is a point of great courtisie.

And

## The School of Vertue.

And when they are served, pause thou a space,  
for that is a sign of Porture and Grace.  
Salt with thy Knife reach to and take,  
thy Bread cut fair and no Hammocks make.  
Thy Spoon with Pottage too full do not fill,  
for fouling the Cloth if it chance to spill.  
And rudeness it is thy Pottage to sup,  
or speak to any his Role in the Cup,  
Thy Knife see be sharp to cut smooth the Meat,  
thy Mouth fill not full when as thou dost eat.  
Not smacking thy lips as commonly do Dogs,  
nor knowing of Bones as do Dung-hil-dogs.  
Such rudeness abhor such beastliness fly :  
at the Table behave thy self mannerly.  
Thy fingers keep clean thy Trencher upon,  
having a Napkin to wipe them thereon.  
Thy Mouth in like case clean do thou make,  
the Cup to drink if in hand thou dost take.  
Let not thy Tongue at the Table walk,  
and of no matter either jangle or talk :  
Temper thy Tongue and thy Belly alway,  
for measure is treasure the Proverb doth say.  
And measure in all things is to be used,  
what is without measure ought to be refused.  
For keeping of silence thou shalt not be shent,  
whereas thy talking may cause thee repent.  
Both speech and silence are things commendable  
but silence is meetest for a Child at the Table.



## The School of Vertue.

For Cato doth say, that in old and young,  
the first step to vertue is to bide the tongue.  
Pick not thy teeth at the table sitting,  
and use not at meals overmuch spitting :  
This rudeness in youth, is naught at a word,  
thy self mannerly behave at the board.  
If occasion of laughter at the table you see,  
beware out of measure at no hand you be.  
Of good manners learn and know what you can,  
it will thee prefer when thou art a man.  
Aristotle the Philosopher this worthy saying writ,  
that manners in a Child are counted more fit,  
Then playing on instruments or vain pleasure,  
for vertuous manners are more precious treas-  
With this prudent saying be not offended, (sure.  
for playing on instruments is not discommended.  
The Philosophers rule herein hath not err'd,  
manners before musick he would have prefer'd.  
Refuse not good Counsel nor his word despise,  
to vertue & knowledge by them thou maist arise.

How to order thy self in the Church.

Chap. 5.

(way,  
**W**hen to the Church thou shalt take thy  
knéeing or standing to God humbly pray :  
All worldly matters from thy mind put apart,  
and earnestly praying to God lift thy heart.

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How to order thy self in the Church.

Chap. 5.

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kneeling or standing to God humbly pray :  
All worldly matters from thy mind put apart,  
and earnestly praying to God lift thy heart.

## The School of Vertue

A contrite heart he doth not despise,  
but doth account it a sweet sacrifice,  
Therefore to him thy sins shew and confess,  
asking for them grace and forgiveness.  
He is thy Physician that knoweth thy soze,  
and can to health again thee restore.  
Then ask thou in faith, not doubting to haue,  
and thou shalt receive that which thou dost craue:  
If lawful it be of God to require,  
he will hear thy request, and grant thy desire.  
More merciful he is then tongue can expresse,  
the author and giber of grace and goodness.  
All ye that labour and burchened be,  
I will refresh you in coming to me:  
These are Christs words; the Scripture is plain,  
spoken to all such as here suffer pain.  
Our wills to his words, now then let us frame;  
the heavenly habitation thereby we may claim.  
In the Church comely thy self behaue,  
sober in carriage, with countenance grave:  
While you be there talk of no matter,  
nor with one another wisper, nor clatter.  
Order thy self reverently alway,  
when to the Church thou shalt come to pray.  
Each thing hath its time, consider the place,  
for it is a token of vertue and grace.  
The Lord doth call it the House of Prayer,  
it must not be used as a Market or Fair.

The

## The School of Vertue.

### The Fruits of Gaming, Vertue, and Learning. Chap. 6.

**O** Little Childzen, eschew each ill game,  
For that hath brought many a one unto shame.  
As dicing, and carding, with such other plays,  
these have undone many we see now adays.  
But if you delight in any such thing,  
delight in knowledge, vertue and learning,  
For learning will lead thee to the School of vertue,  
and Vertue shall teach thee Vice to eschew.  
Thou being subdued thou canst not but flourish,  
happy is that man that Vertue doth nourish.  
By knowledge likewise thou shalt doubts discern,  
and all other things be needful to learn.  
These are the fruits which by them we take,  
then cursed they be which do them forsake.  
But we err in wit, in following our will,  
and in judging that good which is very ill.  
Let reason thee rule, and not wit thee lead,  
in following thy fancy a wrong way to tread,  
But subdue thy lust, and conquer thy will,  
if it shall move thee to do what is ill.  
For what hurt by game, to many doth grow,  
no wise man I think but doth it well know.  
Experience doth teach and make manifest,  
that all honest men it hate and detest.

## The School of Vertue.

Strife and debate, with murther and theft, (left.  
which among Christians I would God were  
Cursing and banning, swearing and tearing,  
that no Christian heart can abide the hearing.  
These be the fruits that from gaming do spring,  
avoid gaming then, for there's no worse thing.

How to behave thy self in talking with any man.  
Chap. 7.

**I**f one demand a question of thee,  
in answer too hasty take heed how thou be:  
Weigh well his words, the cause understand,  
ere an answer to make, thou dost take in hand;  
Or else he may judge in thee little wit,  
to answer a question, yet not knowing it.  
Suffer his tale out whole to be told,  
then speak thou mayst boldly, & not be control'd.  
How obeysance make; look him in the face,  
and treatably speaking, thy words duly place,  
With countenance sober, and body upright,  
thy feet just together, thy hands in like plight.  
Cast not thy eyes on every side,  
and when thou art praised therein take no pride.  
In telling thy tale neither laugh nor smile,  
such folly forsake thou, and count it vile.  
In an audible voice thy words plainly utter,  
smoothly pronounce them without stop or stutter.

To



## The School of Vertue.

Too high nor too low, since both exceed measure,  
in using thy tongue, in thy talk take no pleasure.  
Be careful an order to keep and observe,  
for so from thy purpose thou shalt seldom swerve :  
Hastiness of speech will cause thee to fail,  
and make thee miss in telling thy tale.  
To stutter and stammer is a foul crime ;  
learn then to leave it, take warning in time.  
How evil in a Child it doth become,  
be thy own judge thou having wisdom :  
And sure it is taken by custom and ure,  
while young you be, there is hope of cure.  
This general rule yet take with thee,  
in speaking to any, bare-headed be.  
The common proverb remember yet oft,  
better unsew, than unmannerly taught.

How to be have thy self being sent on a Message.  
Chap. 8.

**I**f on a Message thou chance to be sent,  
take heed to the same, & mark what is meant.  
Depart not away, if thou be in doubt,  
but know well thy message befoze thou pass out.  
With possible speed then haste thou right soon,  
if need so require that so it were done:  
After humble obedience, thy message discharge,  
in uttering thy words be not too large :

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But after thy matter frame thou thy talk,  
not letting thy tongue in wastful words walk :  
And to thy Master therein make relation,  
ever as the answer shall give thee occasion :  
Neither add nor diminish any thing from the same.  
lest it turn after to rebuke and shame.  
But the same utter so near as thou may'st,  
and no fault shall they find with what thou say'st.  
Thus doing from blame thou shalt be set free,  
and counted a servant upright in degree.

Against Envy and Malice.

Chap. 9

**I**F unto anger thy heart be in thrall,  
reason not ruling thee, needs must thou fall.  
Conquer thy will, and bridle thy lust,  
not following thy fancy though occasion be just.  
For anger and fury will thee so change,  
that thy doing to wise men will seem very strange.  
All anger and wrath fray far from thy flesh,  
for wrath, saith Plato, leads shame in a leash.  
The hasty man doth never want trouble,  
his madness of mind his anguish doth double.  
If malice doth move thee to revenge thy cause,  
dread Almighty God and danger of Laws.  
Revenge not thy self though able thou be ;  
forgive the offender and freely agree.

De

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He is perfectly patient and void of disdain,  
that can both anger and fury refrain.

Envy in no case the state of thy Brother,  
in word and deed hurt no one nor other.

Debate and deceit, contention and strife,  
are the chief fruits of an evil Life.

And Solomon saith, an envious heart,  
of pleasure or profit, receiveth no part.

The fruits of Charity, Love, and Patience.  
Chap. 10.

Charity seeketh not what to her doth belong,  
but patiently abiding sustains rather wrong.  
Not envying, but forbearing with love & patience,  
so noble is her nature, forgiving all offence.  
And love doth move the mind to mercy,  
but malice again doth work the contrary;  
Which in wicked men will ever bear stroak,  
but patience doth teach thee to bear every yoke.  
Where patience and love together do dwell,  
all hate and debate and malice they expel.  
Love constant, with faith, Pythagoras doth call  
a sovereign vertue, and a jewel principal.  
Cato doth speak the very same in effect,  
where love is not, vertue is imperfect.  
Desire of God to assist thee with Grace,  
Charity to use, and Vertue to embrace.  
These three following will thee instruct,

## The School of Vertue.

And to Vertues School they will thee conduct:  
And from Vertues School to eternal bliss,  
where perfect joy continually is.

### Against the horrible Sin of Swearing. Chap. II.

**I**n vain take not the name of God,  
swear not at all, for fear of his Rod.  
The house of plagues he threatneth to visit,  
where Oaths are used, they cannot escape it.  
Just are his Judgments, and true is his word,  
and sharper it is than a two-edged Sword.  
Wherefore beware of his indignation,  
learning to live in thy vocation,  
Whereunto the Lord through grace doth thee call,  
rising again if thou chance to fall,  
By Prayer and Repentance, and mind to amend,  
for Christ would have saved all such as offend,  
If they turn from their wickedness,  
and purpose to live in Vertue and Godliness.  
What better art thou for thy cursed swearing,  
like a blasphemous beast the name of God tearing,  
Provoking his ire, and kindling his wrath,  
to endless perdition, the perillous path?  
Seneca doth counsel thee all swearing to refrain,  
although much profit by it thou maist gain.  
Pericles, whose words are manifest and true,  
doth admonish thee all Oaths to eschew.

The

## The School of Vertue.

The law likewise which God the Lord gave,  
swearing amongst us by no means would have.  
The Counsel of Philosophers I have expressed,  
amongst whom swearing was utterly detested.  
Much less amongst Christians it ought to be used  
for it comes of the Devil and must be refused.

Against the vice of filthy talk.

Chap. 12.

**N**O filthy talk in any wise use,  
thy tongue thereby a beast to abuse.  
Of every idle word an account we shall render;  
and all men I would this saying to remember:  
God the just Iudg, at the general day,  
will take account of all that we say.  
That day to the just most joyfull shall be,  
but all the wicked confusion shall see.  
As we live here, like reward we shall have,  
unless we repent and mercy of God crave.  
If God will deal with us so straight,  
for things that be of little weight,  
Then have we not cause to fear and dread  
our evil conversation and lives lewdly led:  
Thy tongue take heed thou do refrain  
from speaking of words that are but vain.  
Thy will and wit to goodness apply,  
if the servant of God thou wilt live and dye.

Against

# The School of Vertue.

## Against the vice of Lying.

### Chap. 13.

**T**O forge, to feign, to flatter and ly, (ly.  
requires diuers colours, with words fair and  
But the utterance of truth is simple and plain,  
and needeth no study to forge and to feign.  
Wherefore speak truth howeuer stands the case,  
so shalt thou find more fauour and grace.  
Use truth; and tell truth in what thou goest about,  
for time in all things the truth will try out.  
Shame is the reward that to Lying is due,  
to auoid shame therefore tell that which is true.  
A Lyer by his lying obtaineth this profit,  
that when he tells truth, no man will him credit.  
Then let thy talk with truth well agree,  
and shamed therefore thou shalt neuer be.  
How may a man to a Liar giue trust?  
doubt his deeds rather, if his words be unjust:  
By speaking of truth, there cometh no shame:  
- but uttering of lyes deserbeth much blame.  
And though by lying thou shiftest a while,  
yet at last it will thee beguile.  
Trust to the truth, and speak what is plain;  
for the death of the Soul in lies doth remain.





A Prayer to be said when  
thou goest to Bed.

**O** Merciful God, hear this our request,  
And grant unto us this night quiet rest.  
Into thy tuition, O Lord do us take :  
Though our bodies sleep, yet let our minds wake.  
Remit the offence this day we have wrought,  
To thee & our neighbours in word, deed & thought ;  
And grant us thy grace henceforth to flee sin,  
That a new Christian life we may all begin.  
Deliver and defend us this night from all evil,  
And from the danger of Satan the Devil;  
Who, like a Lyon goes about night and day,  
By all subtil means still seeking his prey.  
Assist us ( O Lord God ) with thy spirit of grace,  
That valiantly from us the fiend we may chase :  
And in getting the victory may lift up our voice,  
And in thy great strength triumph and rejoyce :  
Saying thus ; O Lord to thee be all praise,  
For thy mighty protection both now and alwayes.  
Thus ordering our selves, God will us bless then,  
With life everlasting. Let us all say, Amen.

The

The particular Duties of all Degrees.

**Y**ou Princes of the Earth,  
this short lesson learn,  
Seek after knowledg,  
all doubts to discern.

We Judges, give judgment  
according to right,  
As may be found acceptable  
in the Lords sight.

We Prelates, preach purely  
the word of the Lord,  
That your preaching and living  
in one may accord.

We Fathers and Mothers,  
your Children instruct  
As may them to Grace  
and Vertue conduct.

We Children likewise,  
your Parents obey,  
In all kind of Godliness,  
as much as you may.

We Masters, do you  
the thing that is right,  
Dealing in Conscience,  
and not as you might.

The particular Duties of all Degrees.

We Servants, apply  
your business and Art,  
Doing the same truly,  
in singleness of heart.

We Husbands, love your Wives,  
and with them dwell,  
Using gentle words,  
all bitterness expel.

We Wives, love your Husbands  
and obedient be:  
For they are your heads,  
and above in degree.

We Parsons and Vicars,  
that have Cure and Charge,  
Take heed to your flocks,  
and run not at large.

We Men of the Law,  
in no wise delay  
The Cause of the Poor,  
but help what you may.

We that be Crafts-men,  
in deceit take no pleasure,  
But give to all men,  
due weight, tale and measure.

We

The particular Duties of all Degrees.

Ye that be Landlords,  
and have Houses to let,  
At reasonable Rents  
them bargain and set.

Ye Merchants that use  
to buy and to sell,  
Use lawful weights,  
so shall you do well.

Ye Subjects, live ye  
in obedience and awe,  
Fearing Gods judgments  
and danger of Law.

Ye rich men, whom God  
abundance hath sent,  
Relieve the poore People,  
and Indigent.

Ye miserable Poore,  
be content with your state,  
And though ye be needy,  
yet grudge not thereat.

Ye great men, the causes  
of Widows and Fatherless,  
Defend against all such  
as would them oppress.

The particular Duties of all Degrees,

All ye that are called  
to any kind of Office,  
Execute the same truly  
according to Justice.

Let us live here  
in our vocation,  
To the glory of God,  
and profit of our Nation.

Lastly, to come  
to true English hearts,  
To live in submission  
it shall be our parts.

And for King James,  
our King let us pray,  
Whom the Lord God preserve,  
and defend night and day.

With his Highness Counsel  
and the Nobility,  
Bishops and Church-men,  
and all the Commonalty.

God grant us to do this,  
which sitteth on high,  
Then well shall we live,  
and well shall we die.

Certain

Certain Prayers and Graces, newly  
added, to be used of Scholars, both before and  
after noon.

Compiled by R. C.

**N**OW that the day star doth appear,  
to God devoutly let us call,  
That in the deeds of day-light clear,  
he keeps us from misfortunes all.

Let him temper our tatling tongues,  
by bridling them after his will,  
Lest horrour vile break us among,  
with words of strife, that sound full ill.

Let him cover our sight also,  
feeding it as he knows best,  
Lest we delight in vain things tho,  
and so draw them into our breast.

Let all the secrets of our hearts  
be pure and clean from filthiness;  
Let slothful sluggishness depart  
from us that study do profess.

Let mean dyet of drink and meat  
beat down pride of filthy flesh,  
Lest raging in that filthy heat,  
we lose of youth the flowers fresh.

These



## Prayers for Scholars.

These things we crave that when the day  
by course of kind away shall pass,  
And night shall come, then sing we may  
in praise of him, to our solace.

And that we may still bear in mind,  
in what works we the day shall spend,  
Let us record what words we find  
in Books that were made to that end.

In Exodus, and other moe,  
that written were by God's Elect,  
We find Gods Precepts written so  
as after follows in effect.

When Jacob's Seed in Wilderness  
could not abide Gods voice to hear,  
Then Moses did himself address,  
for them before God to appear.

And at the Lords Commandement  
he took to him his Servant true :  
Up to Mount Horeb then they went,  
to learn this Law which doth endure.

Which Law God writ in Tables twain.  
of stone so hard which might last long,  
And would the same should still remain  
among his folks both old and young.

C

And



Prayers for Scholars.

And first, to make their mind attend,  
he said (**O** Israel give ear)  
I am the Lord omnipotent,  
whom thou must serve, obey and fear.

For I thee brought from careful thrall,  
wherein thou wast in Egypt long,  
And there could find no ease at all,  
but wert inforc'd to suffer wrong.

Thou shalt have therefore in my sight  
none other Gods but only me :  
For I alone have power and might,  
And all the rest vain Idols be.

Thou shalt not cast out, paint or draw,  
for thee, the Form of any thing  
In heaven or earth, or stand in awe,  
of ought that is of mans making.

For why ? I am a jealous God,  
and will my honour to no one give :  
I beat the Childzen with sharp Rod,  
that like their wicked Parents live :

And that to three or four discents,  
in such of them as do hate me,  
And keep not my Commandements,  
but in their doings wicked be.

## Prayers for Scholars.

But such as love even as they should  
me and my Lawes, and them observe,  
I shew mercy a thousand fold,  
and them from evil I preserve.

Take not in vain Gods holy Name,  
but use it with all reverence:  
For why? the Lord doth all such blame  
as herein doth commit offence.

Remember that thou holy keep  
the day of rest, as God doth will.  
Six days thou shalt apply thy work,  
and do all things that be not ill.

But the seventh day is the Lords rest,  
wherein no vile work may be done,  
By thee, thy Child, thy slave or beast,  
or Stranger that with thee doth wone.

For in six days the Lord did frame  
the heaven, the earth, the creatures all.  
The seventh he ceast, and blest the same,  
as time for his on him to call.

All these Precepts the Lord did write  
on the first Table made of stone,  
And would they should in him delight,  
that for his love, serve him alone.

## Prayers for Scholars.

The second Table follows then,  
wherein the Lord instructeth us,  
How to behave us towards all men,  
and in the same is written thus.

Unto thy Parents honour give  
as Gods Commandements will thee,  
That thou long days and good maist live  
on earth where thine abode shall be.

Murder no man by word or deed,  
with tongue or sword or other thing :  
Do nought from whence hate may proceed,  
for Murder out of hate doth spring.

Avoid all foul Adultery,  
and all things that thereto belong;  
All filthy thoughts and lusts of eye,  
and all unchaste talk of the tongue.

Take not by fraud nor by rapine  
the things that others do possess :  
For so to take what is not thine,  
before God is great wickedness.

Against no man false witness be,  
but testifie the truth alway :  
For God thy secret thoughts doth see,  
and will thee judg at the last day.

Thou

## Prayers for Scholars.

Thou shalt not in thy heart desire  
thy Neighbours Wife at will to have :  
His house nor field don't thou require,  
no nor his servant, nor his slave.

Be not desirous to receive  
his Dr, or Als, or any Beast,  
That he is not willing to leave,  
nor ought that by him is possess.

These be the Laws that God did give  
to Jacobs seed in Wilderness,  
And would that they therein should live,  
that will an endless life possess.

But such that will this Law neglect,  
and walk after fleshly desire,  
The Lord at last will them reject,  
to dwell in everlasting fire.

The Lord God for his mercies sake  
guide us in his most perfect way,  
That we may scape the fiery Lake  
and live with him in Bliss for aye.

That these things may be granted us,  
at this time henceforth alway.  
In the name of our Lord Iesus,  
to God the Father let us pray.

Prayers for Scholars.

**O**UR Father which in Heaven art,  
and dost raign over all,  
Thy holy Name be sanctified  
amongst both great and small.

Thy Kingdom come, wherein we may  
no wicked thing abide,  
Nor ought that doth set up it self,  
or is pult up with pride.

Thy will be done upon the earth,  
like as in Heaven above ;  
Where all the Creatures work thy will,  
because they do thee love.

Give us this day, our daily Bread,  
which need doth make us crave :  
For why : our souls and bodies both  
of thee their food must have.

To ask forgiveness of our sins,  
dear Father we are bold,  
As we forgive wrongs as are done  
among us manifold.

Do thou not us to tryal bring,  
for we are weak indeed :  
But when that sin shall us assault,  
deliver us with speed.

For

### Prayers for Scholars.

For why : the Kingdom, and the power,  
and glory every whit,  
Is thine, and shall be evermore :  
all Soules say, So be it.

† O Lord, preserve our King and Quēn  
with all his Royall Train :  
But chiefly such as zealous be  
the Gospel to maintain :  
Which grant, O God, till day of Doom,  
in Brittain may remain.

### Prayers for Mid-day.

**N**OW that we have the morning spent  
in Learning honest exercise,  
Lest Natures Bow being over bent,  
our bodies let us not despise :  
Let us therefore take at God's hand  
such nourishment as he doth give  
To feed his folk by Sea and Land,  
without the which we cannot live.  
And that we may avoid excess,  
to him for grace now let us call :  
For surfeit doth the wit oppress,  
and drowneth good things natural :  
And more besides, the gift of God  
if we abuse, unto our shame,  
We worthy are to feel the Rod,  
for such dishonour to his Name.



## Prayers for Scholars.

That we therefore may hold the mean,  
to him that made us let us pray:  
And to his promise let us lean,  
that will'd us in his name to say.

Our Father which art, &c.

## Prayer for Evening.

**B**Efore the clear light of the day,  
by course of kind draws to an end,  
To God devoutly let us pray,  
that he will keep and us defend:  
And that all dreams filthy and vain,  
with fantasies that night doth bring,  
May fly far from our heavy Brain,  
while we by sleep seek refreshing,  
And that he will our foes suppress,  
who still do seek us to beguile,  
So that no manner of wickedness  
have power our bodies to defile.  
And more besides, that when we sleep,  
he will vouchsafe us wished ease:  
So shall we when the day doth peep,  
his Majesty with praises please.  
Now that the Father of all might  
will grant this for his dear Sons sake,  
Let's now be humble in his sight,  
as he hath taught, our Prayers make:  
Saying, Our Father, as before.

The



Grace before Meat.

**T**He Lord that did all things create,  
for man to serbe him at his need,  
Bless all that we do drink or eat,  
And giue it strength our flesh to feed.  
For whatsoeuer shall nourish indeed,  
Whether it be good for man or beast,  
Must by his great power be blest.  
And sith we have an inward man,  
That must with inward food be fed,  
Which by no means obtain we can,  
But by him that is heavenly bread,  
And of all spiritual things the head;  
Let us still feed on him in mind,  
That gave us flesh to feed mankind.  
Thus doing we shall run our race  
Without the want of any food;  
And at the last come to the place  
That promi'd was to Abraham's brood,  
And by faith washt in Christ his Blood,  
Where euermore we shall him see,  
That is one God in Persons Three.  
O Lord preserve in health and peace  
King Charles, our most gracious King,  
Thy holy Spirit in him increase,  
That he may be as he hath been,  
A Sword to cut off Popery clean,  
That he and we may hold that truth  
Which he hath loved from his youth.

Amen.

Now

Grace after Meat.

**N**ow that you have your bodies fed,  
With food that feeble flesh must have,  
Remember that you break your bread,  
To such as need compels to crave:  
For God that to us good gifts gave,  
Would that you should therewith refresh  
Such as do lack, and are your flesh.  
You are not Lords of that you have,  
But must account of each thing make  
To him that giveth, when you ask  
Abundance for his mercies sake,  
And would not you should see them lack.  
Be diligent alway therefore,  
To help the needy with your store:  
And if you doubt what sort they be  
That should relief find at your hand,  
Among all men look whom you see  
That of your help in need doth stand,  
To be relieved and loosed from band.  
Them must you know to be that sort  
That at your hands must have comfort.  
But chiefly such as do profess  
The name of Christ unfeignedly,  
For in them Christ is in distress,  
And craveth help in misery,  
And will repay with usury  
All that to him you give or lend,  
And that in life which shall not end.

As

Grace before Meat.

**A**s to the sick all pleasant things  
have still unlaboury taste :  
So shall Gods gifts be unto us,  
if vainly we them waste.  
Take heed therefore, saith Christ our Lord  
that surfeiting ye shun :  
Let not your hearts with banqueting  
be drown'd and overcome.  
Receive Gods gifts with giving thanks,  
and natures weakness feed :  
When you have done, remember those  
which want and stand in need.  
So shall God bless and eke increase  
your basket and your store,  
And give you life in Christ our Lord,  
which liues for evermore.

Grace after meat.

**M**ans life preserved is by food;  
as God hath well decreed :  
But on Gods grace and holy word  
our souls must daily feed.  
Through want of food material,  
the body soon will pine :  
So will the soul, if long it lack  
the spiritual food divine.  
To thee be praise (O Father dear)  
which at this time hath sent  
Both for our souls and bodies food,  
thy Child: in to content. Amen.

Thanks

Grace after Meat.

**T**Hanks be to God in heaven above,  
for he hath fed us well :  
And we beseech his gracious love  
to feed our souls as well.  
Repentance with the fruits thereof  
that we never forget.  
Tender (O Lord) thy holy Church,  
good Rulers in it set,  
And evermore upon England  
thy heavenly grace down send,  
That we may by thy word and truth  
our sinfull lives amend.  
And finally, all such as be  
afflicted for thy word,  
Comfort them by the Holy Ghost,  
through Iesus Christ our Lord.  
O Lord preserve in peace and wealth.  
Our noble King, and send him health. Amen.

Grace before Meat.

**E**at and drinke doth small avail,  
the World is all but vain :  
Except the Lord our hearts do guide,  
our pleasures are but pain :  
Grant us therefore, O Christ, that we  
may all with one accord,  
Not live to eat, but eat to live,  
and live to praise the Lord. Amen.  
The

### Grace before Meat.

**T**he eyes of all things do look up and trust in thee (O Lord,) thou givest them meat in due season: thou openest thy hand, and fillest with thy blessing every living creature. Good Lord, bless us and all the gifts that we receive of thy bounteous liberality, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Grace after Meat.

**T**he God of all power, who hath called from death the great Pastor of his Shæp, the Lord Jesus, comfort and defend the flock which he hath redeemed by the Blood of his eternal Testament: increaseth the number of true Preachers: repress and mitigate the malice of obstinate Tyrants: enlighten the hearts of the ignorant: release the pains of such as be afflicted, but especially those that suffer for the Testimony of the Truth; and finally confound Satan by the power of our Lord Jesus Christ. So be it.

### Grace before Meat.

**C**hrist which at his last Supper gave himself unto us, promising his body to be crucified, and his blood to be shed for our sins, bless us and our meat. Amen.

The God of peace and love vouchsafe always to dwell with us, and thou Lord have mercy upon us.

Grace

Grace before Meat.

**G**Lozy, Honour and Praise be given to thee, O Lord, which hath fed us from our tender age, and givest sustenance to every living thing: replenish our hearts with joy and gladness, that we always having sufficient, may be rich and plentiful in all good Works; through our Lord Jesus Christ. So be it.

Our King and Queen, O Lord defend.  
And bless them both, World without end.

A Prayer.

**G**OD preserve our Realm, the Kings Majesty, with his Royal Queen, the honourable Council, and the Nobility and Commons of the same: God assist the Clergy with his Holy Spirit, in setting forth his truth: God defend the Favourers of the Gospel, and make us all faithful and zealous in the same: God change the hearts of our Enemies: The mighty power of God destroy Antichrist with his wicked Kingdom: God send the Gospel a joyful and free passage through the whole World, that every one of us may live godly and uprightly in our vocation and calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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